

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting
May 13, 2009**

The meeting commenced at 7:45 P.M. at 1 Maple Glen Lane, Leicester.

In attendance: Paul Dufresne
Tommy Lee
Richard Johnston, Clerk
Terry O'Coin, Treasurer

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Previously distributed Minutes of the Management Committee meeting on April 8, 2009 were offered for approval. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the Minutes as written.

Clerk's Report

Mr. Johnston reported the following correspondence since the last Management Committee meeting:

- 4/22 mailing of 123 newsletters
- 5/4 mailing of 87 Warrants for Annual Meeting
- 5/4 letter to Assessors from Clerk regarding parcel 28 A18
- 5/4 letter to Assessors from Clerk list of District officials
- 5/6 letter from Richard Nysten to Clerk

Treasurer's Report

Mr. O'Coin presented a Treasurer's Report dated 5/13/09 that showed the District had \$32,135.75 on deposit with the Spencer Savings Bank. He sought and received approval for Warrant number 129.

Mr. O'Coin discussed the an invoice from Ernest DeSimone of approximately \$4,200 that he would hold until receipt of tax revenues from the Town Tax Collector's office. He planned to call the new Tax Collector to determine when the District could expect payment of tax revenue receipts.

Old Business

Budget Discussion:

The Clerk sought and received a legal opinion from Attorney Richard Nysten regarding the maximum allowable repayment period for a short term note. After reviewing the District's enabling legislation, Mr. Nysten conclude that the maximum repayment period was two years.

Given this information, and the probability that a loan to cover trial expenses would commence in October, it was agreed to minimize the impact of a large short term loan on Proprietors by spreading repayment out over three fiscal years. Free cash would be used in an attempt to equalize taxes over these years.

It was agreed to include \$60,000 of the estimated \$75,000 trial expense as a loan with the remainder coming from free cash. The amount of free cash has been reduced over recent years to the point wherein outstanding bills must be held until annual tax revenue arrives. It was agreed to propose to the Proprietors at the upcoming Annual Meeting an increase of approximately \$8,500 in the annual tax assessment to increase available free cash, and to help pay the additional trail costs. Such an increase would raise the average Proprietor's annual tax bill by approximately \$100. The assessed evaluation of the average Proprietor property is approximately \$335,000.

Annual Meeting Preparation:

Action Plan Status Report: A proposed Action Plan Status Report for 2008-2009 was approved for presentation at the Annual Meeting. It was agreed that when updating the Proprietor's at the Annual Meeting, Mr. Johnston would also provide an explanation concerning the Central Water District Associates vs. Stiles lake Water District trial.

Proposed Action Plan: A proposed Action Plan for 2009-2010 was approved for presentation at the Annual Meeting with modification. It was agreed that due to budgetary considerations, action concerning the land below the dam would be limited to attempting to seek permission of the land owner to access the land for tree cutting purposes. It was agreed that the District could not afford to purchase the land in question while conducting, and paying for, a very expensive trial.

Motion Assignments: Responsibility to make motions and to lead discussions were distributed among the elected officials.

Room Set-up: It was agreed that the elected officials would arrive at 6:45 PM to take down the tables in the Police Department community room and to set up additional chairs. Mr. Lee and Mr. Dufresne would bring approximately 24 additional folding chairs.

Moderator: Mr. Lee explained that Norman MacLeod had agreed to serve as Moderator in the absence of Ruth Kaminski.

Meeting Clerks: Corey Lee and Anita Johnston would again serve as Meeting Clerks.

Data Collection Sheets: It was agreed that the Proprietors in attendance would be asked to complete a questionnaire seeking information concerning the impact of the 1990-1997 draw down on their use of the lake.

Trial Attendance Solicitation: It was agreed that a sign in type sheet would be circulated at the Annual Meeting where Proprietors could indicate their willingness to sit in the audience during the upcoming trial.

New Business

Benthic Barrier:

Mr. Johnston briefly discussed plans to continue to experiment with benthic barrier material in his cove. He discussed the possibility of stretching 25 foot wide weed barrier material across the water surface as a means of killing weeds. The amount of \$250 will be carried in the annual budget for this purpose.

Parcel 28 A18:

Mr. Johnston shared a copy of a letter to the Principal Assessor John Prescott dated 5/4/09 advising Mr. Prescott to remove Parcel 28 A18 0 from the District. This is the parcel below the dam owned by Raymond Shea. Mr. Shea has previously been advised that he is no longer a Proprietor of the District because his land no longer abuts the lake.

Executive Session:

The meeting was recessed to hold an executive session to discuss pending litigation.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 1 Maple Glen Lane, Leicester. An organizational meeting will be held immediately following the Annual Meeting of the District.

Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M..

A True Copy Attest:

Richard D. Johnston
District Clerk